

IC 22-10-5

Chapter 5. Control of Roof, Face, and Ribs

IC 22-10-5-1

Roof support; bolts; installation; minimum standards

Sec. 1. (a) Adequate minimum standards for roof support suitable to the roof conditions and mining system of each mine shall be adopted and followed after written approval of the director. Such standards shall show the minimum number and the location of supports, such as posts, cross bars, or bolts, that shall be installed.

(b) Minimum standards adopted for the installation of bolts as a means of roof support shall include the following:

- (1) Type of bolt.
- (2) Dimensions of bolt.
- (3) Spacing of bolts.
- (4) Maximum width of place where bolts are installed.
- (5) Maximum distance from face where bolts are to be installed.
- (6) Type and size of bearing plates.
- (7) Safety precautions to be taken.
- (8) Timbers to be set, if any, in connection with bolting.
- (9) Area of mine involved.

(c) If roof bolts are used, openings that exceed twenty (20) feet in width must also be supported by conventional timbering. Openings may not exceed thirty (30) feet in width.

(d) No changes shall be made in any roof bolting installation prior to the issuance of a revised permit by the director.

(Formerly: Acts 1955, c.168, s.36.) As amended by P.L.231-1983, SEC.11; P.L.243-1987, SEC.2.

IC 22-10-5-2

Face working; safe place to work

Sec. 2. (A) The management shall provide at or near the face workings an ample supply of suitable materials of proper size with which to secure all working places in a safe manner.

(B) Safety posts, jacks, or temporary cross bars shall be set close to the face when necessary for safety before other operations are begun and as needed thereafter.

(C) Roof shall be adequately supported to protect the workmen when roof material is being taken down, cross bars are being installed, roof-bolt holes are being drilled, and when roof bolts are being installed.

(D) The roof in all underground working places shall be secured sufficiently wherever necessary to protect employees from falls of roof, face, or rib. Loose roof and overhanging or loose faces and ribs therein shall be taken down or supported.

(E) The roof and ribs of all active underground roadways and travelways in a mine shall be adequately supported to protect persons from falls of roof or ribs, and traffic thereunder shall be prohibited until the danger has been removed.

(F) Supports knocked out accidentally shall be replaced promptly.

(G) Permanent supports in active workings shall not be removed unless equivalent protection is provided.

(H) Where roof supports are required at the working faces, persons shall not advance beyond artificially supported roof, except those who are assigned to install supports or inspect the place.

(Formerly: Acts 1955, c.168, s.37.)

IC 22-10-5-3

Testing; starting machines

Sec. 3. (A) The management shall instruct all underground workmen in the proper testing of roof, face, and ribs.

(B) Persons exposed to danger from falls of roof, face, and ribs shall examine and test the roof, face, and ribs before starting work or before starting a machine and frequently thereafter. When dangerous conditions are found, they shall be corrected immediately before work is continued or any other work is done, or the place shall be vacated.

(C) Any foreman finding a dangerous roof, rib or face condition in any working place shall cause such condition to be corrected and shall order the removal of persons exposed to such danger from the area of danger except those required to correct such condition.

(D) When there is danger of coal rolling on a person during or after cutting, it shall be spragged by placing blocks in the cut or by blocking with leaning posts.

(E) A bar of proper length shall be used to bar down loose material.

(F) Cross bars and their supports shall be well secured to prevent them from being dislodged by falling or rolling coal or rock.

(G) When roof bolts are tested, such testing shall be done by qualified persons designated by the mine foreman.

(Formerly: Acts 1955, c.168, s.38.)

IC 22-10-5-4

Roof supports; recovery

Sec. 4. Recovery of roof supports shall not be done by inexperienced persons unless such persons are being trained by a qualified person. Roof bolts shall not be recovered by inexperienced persons and where roof bolts are recovered adequate temporary supports shall be provided.

(Formerly: Acts 1955, c.168, s.39.)